

# RESOURCE SURVEY REPORT

## Catch Summary

NOAA Fisheries Service  
Northeast Fisheries Science Center

**Surfclam - Ocean Quahog Survey**  
Delmarva Peninsula - Georges Bank  
May 23 - June 30, 2005

The 2005 region-wide survey for Atlantic Surfclam, *Spisula solidissima*; and ocean quahog, *Arctica islandica*, was conducted in continental shelf waters, from Delmarva Peninsula to Georges Bank aboard the *R/V DELAWARE II*. The survey, conducted by the Northeast Fisheries Science Center, provides indices of abundance and recruitment for both species. In addition, tows were made at 151 non-random sites during the survey to support on-going scientific studies.

The following charts and station data describe the distribution of surfclams and ocean quahogs during the survey. Five-minute tows were made at the speed of 1.5 knots with a hydraulic jet dredge equipped with a 5-foot wide blade and submersible pump positioned on the dredge. Survey stations were randomly selected to provide unbiased abundance measurements. Therefore, these stations were not always on or near known locations of surfclam concentrations.

In this report, catch quantity is recorded in numbers of surfclams, and depth in fathoms. Percent estimates of surfclams are also given by four categories of shell height: between 0 to 4.75", 4.76 to 5.00", 5.01 to 5.50", and greater than 5.50". Distribution plots indicate relative numbers of surfclams and ocean quahogs caught on each tow.

The data are now summarized from audited catch files generated from the Fisheries Scientific Computer System (FSCS).

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**[http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/esb/Resource\\_Survey\\_Reports.htm](http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/esb/Resource_Survey_Reports.htm)**